117th Congress  
2d Session  

H. R. 6450  

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program,  
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  

Mrs. Kim of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on ____________________________  

A BILL  

To amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE  
program, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,  
3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.  
4 This Act may be cited as the “SCORE for Small  
5 Business Act of 2022”.  
6 SEC. 2. SCORE PROGRAM PROVISIONS AND REQUIRE-  
7 MENTS.  
8 Section 8 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637)  
9 is amended—
(1) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

   (A) by striking “a Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)” and inserting “the SCORE program described in subsection (c)”;

and

   (B) by striking “SCORE may” and inserting “the SCORE Association (as defined in subsection (c)) may”; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) SCORE PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) SCORE ASSOCIATION.—The term ‘SCORE Association’ means the Service Corps of Retired Executives Association or any successor or other organization that enters into a cooperative agreement (as described under paragraph (2)) with the Administrator to operate the SCORE program.

“(B) SCORE FOUNDATION.—The term ‘SCORE Foundation’ means an organization with a mission to support the SCORE Association and volunteers of the SCORE program.
“(C) SCORE PROGRAM.—The term ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program authorized by subsection (b)(1)(B).

“(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The Administrator shall enter into a cooperative agreement with the SCORE Association to carry out the SCORE program, which shall include the following requirements:

“(A) ADMINISTRATOR DUTIES.—The Administrator shall—

“(i) every 2 years, conduct a financial examination of the SCORE Association to ensure that any costs paid for with Federal funds are allowable, allocable, and reasonable;

“(ii) review and approve contracts entered into by the SCORE Association to provide goods or services for the SCORE program of a value greater than an amount determined by the Administrator;

“(iii) maintain a system through which the SCORE Association provides documentation relating to such contracts; and
“(iv) within 30 days of the receipt of
a quarterly report on the achievements of
the SCORE program submitted by the
SCORE Association, reconcile differences
between such report and the performance
results of the SCORE program reported in
a management information system of the
Office of Entrepreneurial Development.

“(B) SCORE ASSOCIATION DUTIES.—The
SCORE Association shall—

“(i) manage nationwide chapters of
the SCORE program;

“(ii) provide annual training to em-
ployees of the SCORE Association on gener-
erating and using program income from
the SCORE program;

“(iii) submit documentation to the
Administrator verifying such annual train-
ing is completed;

“(iv) separate funds donated to the
SCORE Association from program income
and funds received pursuant to a coopera-
tive agreement; and

“(v) maintain and enforce require-
ments for volunteers participating in the
SCORE program, including requirements that each such volunteer shall—

“(I) based on the business experience and knowledge of the volunteer—

“(aa) provide personal counseling, mentoring, and coaching on the process of starting, expanding, managing, buying, and selling a business at no cost to individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

“(bb) facilitate free or low-cost education workshops for individuals who own, or aspire to own, small business concerns; and

“(II) as appropriate, use tools, resources, and expertise of other organizations to carry out the SCORE program.

“(C) JOINT DUTIES.—The Administrator, in consultation with the SCORE Association,
shall ensure that the SCORE program and each chapter of the SCORE program—

“(i) develop and implement plans and goals to effectively and efficiently provide services to individuals in rural areas, economically disadvantaged communities, or other traditionally underserved communities, including plans for virtual, remote, and web-based initiatives, chapter expansion, partnerships, and the development of new skills by volunteers participating in the SCORE program; and

“(ii) reinforce an inclusive culture by recruiting diverse volunteers for the chapters of the SCORE program.

“(3) ONLINE COMPONENT.—In addition to providing in-person services, the SCORE Association shall maintain and expand online counseling services including webinars, electronic mentoring platforms, and online toolkits to further support entrepreneurs.

“(4) ACCOUNTING.—The SCORE Association shall—

“(A) maintain a centralized accounting and financing system for each chapter of the SCORE program;
“(B) maintain a uniform policy and procedures to manage Federal funds received pursuant to a cooperative agreement described in paragraph (2); and

“(C) maintain an employee of the SCORE Association to serve as a compliance officer to ensure expenditures of the SCORE program are fully compliant with any law, regulation, or cooperative agreement relating to the SCORE program.

“(5) COMPENSATION.—

“(A) SALARIES.—The salary of an employee of the SCORE Association may not exceed the equivalent of the maximum rate of pay allowable for an individual in the career Senior Executive Service employed at the Administration.

“(B) PERFORMANCE AWARDS.—The SCORE Association may spend up to 5 percent of the aggregate salaries of employees of the SCORE Association on individual performance awards to employees of the SCORE Association, to be disbursed before the last day of the fiscal year, if not later than 60 days before such disbursement the SCORE Association submits
to the Administrator a report on the number
and amount of such awards to be disbursed.

“(C) SCORE FOUNDATION.—A member of
the Board of Directors of the SCORE Associa-
tion or an employee of the SCORE Association
may not simultaneously serve on the Board of
Directors of, or receive compensation from, the
SCORE Foundation without written approval
from the Administrator.

“(6) WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION REQUIRE-
MENTS.—The SCORE Association shall—

“(A) annually update all manuals or other
documents applicable to employees and volun-
teers of the SCORE Association or the SCORE
program to include requirements relating to re-
porting procedures and protectors for whistle-
blowers; and

“(B) conduct an annual training for em-
ployees and volunteers of the SCORE Associa-
tion or the SCORE program on the require-
ments described in paragraph (1) and encour-
age the use of the hotline established by the Of-
fect of the Inspector General of the Small Busi-
ness Administration to submit whistleblower re-
ports.
“(7) Published materials.—The SCORE Association shall ensure all published materials include written acknowledgment of Small Business Administration support of the SCORE program if such materials are paid for in whole or in part by Federal funds.

“(8) Privacy requirements.—

“(A) In general.—Neither the Administrator nor the SCORE Association may disclose the name, address, or telephone number of any individual or small business concern receiving assistance from the SCORE Association without the consent of such individual or small business concern, unless—

“(i) the Administrator is ordered to make such a disclosure by a court in any civil or criminal enforcement action initiated by a Federal or State agency; or

“(ii) the Administrator determines such a disclosure is necessary for the purpose of conducting a financial audit of the SCORE program, in which case disclosure shall be limited to the information necessary for the audit.
“(B) ADMINISTRATOR USE OF INFORMATION.—This paragraph shall not—

“(i) restrict the access of the Administrator to SCORE program activity data; or

“(ii) prevent the Administrator from using SCORE program client information to conduct client surveys.

“(C) STANDARDS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, after the opportunity for notice and comment, establish standards for—

“(I) disclosures with respect to financial audits described under subparagraph (A)(ii); and

“(II) conducting client surveys, including standards for oversight of the surveys and for dissemination and use of client information.

“(ii) MAXIMUM PRIVACY PROTECTION.—The standards issued under this subparagraph shall, to the extent practicable, provide for the maximum amount of privacy protection.

“(9) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this sub-
section and annually thereafter, the Administrator
shall submit to the Committee on Small Business
and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Com-
mittee on Small Business of the House of Rep-
resentatives a report on the performance and effec-
tiveness of the SCORE program, which may be in-
cluded as part of another report submitted to such
Committees by the Administrator, and which shall
include—

“(A) the total number and the number of
unique clients counseled or trained under the
SCORE program;

“(B) the number of hours of counseling
provided under the SCORE program;

“(C) the number of local workshops pro-
vided under the SCORE program;

“(D) the number of clients attending on-
line and local workshops provided under the
SCORE program;

“(E) to the extent practicable, the demo-
graphics of SCORE program clients and volun-
teers, which shall include the gender, race, and
age of each such client or volunteer;

“(F) with respect to businesses assisted
under the SCORE program, the cost to create
a job, the cost to create a business, and return on investment;

“(G) the number of referrals of SCORE program clients to other resources and programs of the Administration;

“(H) the number of SCORE program clients receiving financial assistance, including the type and dollar amount, under loan programs of the Administration;

“(I) the results of SCORE program client satisfactory surveys, including a summary of any comments received from such clients;

“(J) the number of new businesses started up by SCORE program clients;

“(K) the number of such new businesses realizing revenue growth;

“(L) to the extent practicable, the number of jobs created with assistance from the SCORE program;

“(M) the total cost of the SCORE program;

“(N) any recommendations of the Administrator to improve the SCORE program; and

“(O) an explanation of how the SCORE program has been integrated with—
“(i) small business development centers;

“(ii) women’s business centers (described under section 29);

“(iii) Veteran Business Outreach Centers 20 (described under section 32);

“(iv) other offices of the Administration; and

“(v) other public and private entities engaging in entrepreneurial and small business development.”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SCORE PROGRAM.

Section 20 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) SCORE Program.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1) such sums as are necessary for the Administrator to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements in a total amount that does not exceed $13,500,000 in each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023.”.
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SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE SCORE PROGRAM.—

(1) STUDY.—The SCORE Association shall carry out a study on the future role of the SCORE program and develop a strategic plan for how the SCORE program will meet the needs of small business concerns during the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, with specific objectives for the first, third, and fifth years of such 5-year period.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report containing—

(A) all findings and determination made in carrying out the study required under paragraph (1);

(B) the strategic plan developed under paragraph (1); and

(C) an explanation of how the SCORE Association plans to achieve the strategic plan, as-
assuming both stagnant and increased funding levels.

(b) Administrator Report on Leased Space.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report containing an assessment of the cost of leased space that is donated to the SCORE Association.

(c) Online Component Report.—Not later than 3 months after the last day of the first full fiscal year following the date of the enactment of this Act, the SCORE Association shall submit to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the online counseling services required under paragraph (3) of section 8(c) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of this Act, including a description of—

(1) how the SCORE Association determines electronic mentoring and webinar needs, develops training for electronic mentoring, establishes webinar criteria curricula, and evaluates webinar and electronic mentoring results;
(2) the internal controls that are used and a summary of the topics covered by the webinars; and

(3) performance metrics, including the number of small business concerns counseled by, the number of small business concerns created by, the number of jobs created and retained by, and the funding amounts directed towards such online counseling services.

SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 7 (15 U.S.C. 636)—

(A) in subsection (b)(12)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by inserting “PROGRAM” after “SCORE”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in subsection (m)(3)(A)(i)(VIII), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(2) in section 22 (15 U.S.C. 649)—

(A) in subsection (b)—
(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”; and

(B) in subsection (c)(12), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

(b) OTHER LAWS.—

(1) SMALL BUSINESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997.—Section 707 of the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997 (15 U.S.C. 631 note) is amended by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) program” and inserting “SCORE program (as defined in section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act)”.

(2) VETERANS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999.—Section 301 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999 (15 U.S.C. 657b note) is amended by striking “Service Core of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.


(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) the term ‘SCORE program’ means the SCORE program authorized by section 8(b)(1)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(b)(1)(B));”;

and

(B) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(iv), by striking “Service Corps of Retired Executives” and inserting “SCORE program”.

executives (SCORE)” and inserting “SCORE program”.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION; ADMINISTRATOR.—The terms “Administration” and “Administrator” mean, respectively, the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof.

(2) SCORE ASSOCIATION; SCORE PROGRAM.—The terms “SCORE Association” and “SCORE program” have the meaning given those terms, respectively, under section 8(c)(1) of the Small Business Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.